

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A medical testing system comprising:
  - a. an instrument for monitoring a characteristic of a patient, the instrument including a work surface; and
  - b. an illuminating component for illuminating the work surface.

2. The system of claim 1, further including a supporting component engaging the instrument for supporting the illuminating component above the work surface.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the instrument further includes a keypad, adjacent the work surface.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the illuminating component illuminates the keypad.

5. The system of claim 4, further including a display coupled to the instrument for displaying patient information.

6. A medical testing system comprising:
  - a. an instrument for monitoring the electrical activity of a patient's heart, said instrument including a work surface;
  - b. a light source for lighting the work surface; and
  - c. a supporting component engaging the instrument for supporting the light source.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the light source includes at least one LED.

8. The system of claim 6, wherein the instrument includes a component adjacent the work surface for printing on a medium a graphical waveform representing the electrical activity of the heart.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the light source lights the medium.

10. The system of claim 6, wherein the supporting component includes a plate fixed in position above the instrument.

11. The system of claim 6, wherein the instrument includes a power source, the light source being coupled to the power source.

5 12. The system of claim 6, wherein the light source comprises at least one light emitting diode.

13. The system of claim 6, wherein the instrument is an electrocardiogram.

14. A medical testing system comprising:

10 a. an instrument for monitoring the electrical activity of a patient's heart, said instrument including (1) a work surface, (2) a component for printing on a medium, moving across the work surface, a graphical waveform representing the electrical activity of the heart, and (3) a power source coupled to the component for printing; and

15 b. an illuminating component coupled to the power source for illuminating the work surface.

15. The system of claim 14, further comprising a supporting component engaging the instrument for supporting the illuminating component above the instrument.

20 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the instrument includes a keypad adjacent the work surface.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the illuminating component illuminates the keypad.

18. The system of claim 14, wherein the illuminating component includes at least one light emitting diode.

25 19. A medical testing system comprising:

a. an instrument for monitoring the electrical activity of a patient's heart; and

b. a first component for illuminating the instrument, the instrument including a second component for decoding instructions received from a user and a third component for providing power to the first component and the second component, the third component for controlling power being capable of remotely  
5 controlling power to the first component.

20. A medical testing system comprising:

- a. means for monitoring the electrical activity of a patient's heart, the means for monitoring including (1) a work surface, (2) a means for printing on a medium, moving across the work surface, a graphical waveform representing the  
10 electrical activity of the heart, and (3) a power source coupled to the means for printing; and
- b. means coupled to the power source for illuminating the work surface.

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